

my personal heroes, Senator JOHN H. GLENN, Jr. of Ohio. I rise today to pay tribute to this great American, a man I feel genuinely honored to call my friend.

All of us old enough to remember JOHN GLENN's flight into orbit around the earth on February 20, 1967 aboard Friendship 7 stand in awe of his courage and strength of character. But this enormous accomplishment followed on a distinguished record of heroism in battle as a Marine officer and pilot. He served his country in the Marine Corps for 23 years, including his heroic service in both World War II and the Korean conflict. And, in turn, his remarkable accomplishment in the history of space flight has been followed by an extraordinary Senate career over the past 24 years, as the only Ohio Senator in history to serve four consecutive terms.

For the 20 years that I have been in the Senate, I have served side by side with JOHN GLENN in both the Governmental Affairs Committee which he chaired for many years and now serves as Ranking Minority Member and the Armed Services Committee where he serves as the Ranking Minority Member of the Subcommittee on Airland Forces. More recently, I have served with JOHN GLENN on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. This has given me a front row seat to watch one of the giants of the modern day U.S. Senate do the hard, grinding work of legislative accomplishment.

Over the years, JOHN GLENN has led the fight for efficiency in government, for giving the American people more bang for that tax "buck". He was the author of the Paperwork Reduction Act. He has worked to streamline federal purchasing procedures, and led the fight to create independent inspectors general in federal agencies. He was the point man in the Senate for the Clinton Administration's battle to reduce the size of the federal workforce to the lowest levels since the Kennedy Administration. He and I have fought side by side to block extreme efforts to gut regulatory safeguards in the name of reform and for the passage of a sensible approach to regulatory reform to restore confidence in government regulations. Throughout his career, JOHN GLENN has made himself an enemy of wasteful spending and bureaucracy, yet a friend of the dedicated federal worker.

JOHN GLENN has steadfastly served as a powerful advocate for veterans. He led the effort to bring the Veterans Administration up to cabinet-level and to provide benefits to veterans of the Persian Gulf conflict.

On the Armed Services Committee, JOHN GLENN has brought his enormous credibility to bear time and again both in that Committee and on the Intelligence Committee on the side of needed programs and weapons and against wasteful and unnecessary ones like the B-2 bomber.

Perhaps JOHN GLENN's most important role, however, has been as the au-

thor of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act and as the Senate's leader in fighting the proliferation of nuclear weapons around the world. In this area, the Senate will sorely miss his clear vision, eloquent voice and consistent leadership.

Mr. President, JOHN GLENN, of course, has remained the strongest and most effective voice in the Senate for the nation's space program. Many of us will be on hand to watch the launch of his second NASA mission later this month, 31 years after the first. At age 77, JOHN GLENN has volunteered to go back into space to test the effects of weightlessness on the aging process, and once again inspires our nation and sets an example for us all—an example of courage, character, sense of purpose, and, yes, adventure.

No person I've known or know of has worn his heroism with greater humility. JOHN GLENN is, to use a Yiddish word, a true mensch, a good and decent man.

JOHN GLENN and his beloved wife, Annie, are simply wonderful people. They, their children and grandchildren are the All-American family. My wife Barbara and I will keenly miss JOHN and Annie Glenn as they leave the Senate family.

RETIREMENT OF SENATOR DALE BUMPERS

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, the United States Senate is about to lose one of the great orators of its long history. I never had the opportunity, of course, to hear Webster or Clay or Calhoun. But, I have heard DALE BUMPERS of Arkansas on the Senate floor and it's hard to imagine anyone could have been a more forceful, eloquent, or effective speaker.

I was reminded recently by a former staff member of one debate in particular. The issue was the proposed real estate development in Northern Virginia at the site of the Second Battle of Manassas. The debate had stretched into a Friday evening and a larger than usual number of Senators were on the floor. The manager had made an effective presentation when DALE BUMPERS, the author of a more restrictive version of the bill rose to speak.

Knowing that many of his colleagues love history, DALE BUMPERS using detailed maps laid out the story of the Second Battle of Manassas more than a hundred years ago. Every Senator on the floor that night listened with rapt attention. As he reached the climax of his performance, DALE BUMPERS said:

"Well, I could go on and on, but I want to just simply say . . . I believe strongly in our heritage, and I think our children ought to know where these battlefields are and what was involved in them. And, I don't want to go out there ten years from now with my grandson and tell him about the Second Battle of Manassas . . . and he says, 'Grandpa, wasn't General Lee in control of this war here—didn't he command the confederate troops?'"

"Yes, he did."

"Well, where was he?"

"He was up there where that shopping mall is."

Senator BUMPERS then said, "I can see a big granite monument inside that mall's hallway right now: 'General Lee Stood On This Spot'. Now if you really cherish our heritage, as I do, and you believe that history is very important for our children, you'll vote for my amendment."

Rarely in the modern Senate do we see issues actually decided in debate on the floor. But, I suspect that that night I watched DALE BUMPERS, with that speech, win the "Third Battle of Manassas".

DALE BUMPERS has served in the Senate for four terms. He has been one of the most consistent voices for elimination of wasteful government spending. We will all miss his leadership in efforts to reform federal mining law and grazing fees. His battles against the Clinch River Breeder Reactor which he won in 1984, the superconducting super collider which he finally won in 1993 and the space station which he did not win, have become legendary.

DALE BUMPERS and I both take pride in the fact that we were among the few Senators to vote against the Reagan tax cut and unfunded defense buildup of 1981 which together led to the huge deficits of the 1980's.

DALE would have made a great President because he is a person whose clarity of expression is matched by the courage of his vision and his commitment to America's working families.

Mr. President, when the 106th Congress convenes next year, the Senate will seem an emptier body in the absence of one of its most memorable leaders and all of us in the Senate family with miss DALE and Betty Bumpers.

RETIREMENT OF SENATOR DIRK KEMPTHORNE

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to a colleague and friend who will be leaving the Senate when the 105th Congress adjourns, DIRK KEMPTHORNE, the junior senator from Idaho.

I have served with DIRK KEMPTHORNE on both the Armed Services and Small Business Committees where I have come to respect his thoughtfulness, dedication and hard work.

DIRK KEMPTHORNE has been a valuable member of the Armed Services Committee where he has served as the Chairman of the Personnel Subcommittee. As Chairman, he has demonstrated a commitment to the welfare of our men and women in uniform and their families.

Senator KEMPTHORNE joined with Senator BYRD in initiating the Congressional Commission on Military Training to examine issues related to basic training of men and women which will give its best advice to the Congress

next year on whether current practices should be changed.

While I didn't agree with DIRK KEMPTHORNE on many of the specifics of his Unfunded Mandate legislation in 1995, I, like many of my colleagues in the Senate, was greatly impressed with the manner in which he managed the bill and his command of the complex details.

Mr. Chairman, in the United States Senate we are called upon to work with colleagues of many differing points of view. While DIRK KEMPTHORNE and I sit on separate sides of the aisle and sometimes disagree on issues before the Senate, it has always been a pleasure to deal with him. He is always an able advocate for his position, and always a gracious gentleman.

WHY THE FLAG AMENDMENT DEBATE IS APPROPRIATE NOW

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I would like to make a few very brief remarks about our inability to get a time agreement on the flag amendment, and respond to the assertion that it is somehow inappropriate to debate this important issue at this time. I think it is entirely appropriate that we debate the constitutional amendment to protect our flag at this time in the year. There is no better time than the present to discuss the values the flag represents: the unity and common values of all Americans.

The flag amendment should, like the flag itself, unite us. And it does unite Americans of both parties. This amendment is cosponsored by 61 Members of the Senate, Republicans and Democrats. Senator CLELAND, a war hero, who has sacrificed much, and who is a Democrat, is the primary cosponsor.

And ultimately, all we supporters of the amendment are asking for is a chance to let the American people decide whether to protect the flag by debating the amendment in ratification debates in each of the State legislatures. And the people clearly want the flag amendment. Forty-nine State legislatures have called for the flag amendment. And polling has consistently shown that more than three-quarters of the American people have consistently supported a flag amendment over the years since the Supreme Court's fateful decision in *Texas versus Johnson* in 1989.

Mr. President, I believe this legislation not only is vital to protect our shared values as Americans, but this debate is also timely today as we all strive to recover what is good and decent about our country.

Mr. President, we see evidence of moral decay and a lack of standards all around us. Behavior that was once found to be shameful is now routinely excused because "everybody does it." Our popular culture, including movies and television, bombard us with messages of gratuitous sex and violence. Even sports figures too often set a terrible example for the young people that follow their every move.

And yet here today we have a unique opportunity to do something uplifting, something decent, something that will make our country proud. We have an opportunity to say to a few exhibitionists and anarchists that in pursuit of your fifteen minutes of fame, you may not deface the most sacred embodiment of the virtues of our country. You may not dishonor the memory of those millions of men and women who have given their lives for America. You may not yet again lower standards of elemental decency that all of must and should live by. Today, we will say that our flag, the embodiment of so many of our hopes and dreams, can no longer be dragged through the mud, torn asunder, or defecated on.

Can anyone think of a better message to send to our citizens and to our young people than to begin to reclaim appropriate standards of behavior for everyone in this country? Mr. President, there will be those who will decry this discussion as a distraction from "real" and "important" matters of taxes and budgets and regulation and other Federal programs. These issues are important and the Congress must deal with them. But that should not obscure our inattention to the "values deficit" that exists in public life today. We need more public conversation about values and standards. We must take every opportunity to set the right behavioral standards for our children, lest we become a nation of cynics who snicker every time someone tries to re-instill virtue into public life.

And so, Mr. President, not only is this discussion appropriate today, but it is critical. I can think of no more important conversation we can have in America than how we use American liberty to promote public virtue.

Protecting the American flag from physical desecration is a small but important way to begin this important debate.

Now, having said all that, I am disappointed that opponents of the flag amendment have rejected a reasonable time agreement, without even offering an alternative time agreement. I would be interested to know what would be acceptable.

Finally, if it should be the case that we are not going to debate the flag amendment this year, and that is how it appears, I believe we should bring it up early in the new Congress, and debate and vote on it at the earliest opportunity next year. I want my colleagues to know that I will be back next year and I will trust that this important matter will be acted on early in the next session. The American people want the opportunity to debate the flag amendment in the States, and I believe we should listen to the people on this.

FAILURE TO ACHIEVE JUVENILE CRIME LEGISLATION

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I would like to briefly discuss an issue of great

importance to the Senate and the nation—juvenile crime. Over the past weeks, we have been working hard to try to reach consensus on comprehensive legislation to address juvenile crime in our nation. I am disappointed to report to my colleagues that we have fallen short in that effort.

The sad reality is that we can no longer sit silently by as children kill children, as teenagers commit truly heinous offenses, as our juvenile drug abuse rate continues to climb. In 1996, juveniles accounted for nearly one fifth—19 percent—of all criminal arrests in the United States. Persons under 18 committed 15 percent of all murders, 17 percent of all rapes, and 32.1 percent of all robberies.

And although there are endless statistics on our growing juvenile crime problem, one particularly sobering fact is that, between 1985 and 1993, the number of murder cases involving 15-year olds increased 207 percent. We have kids involved in murder before they can even drive.

In short, our juvenile crime problem has taken a new and sinister direction. But cold statistics alone cannot tell the whole story. Crime has real effect on the lives of real people. Recently, I read an article in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* by my good friend, crime novelist Patricia Cornwell. It is one of the finest pieces I have read on the effects of and solutions to our juvenile crime problem, and I ask unanimous consent that it be printed in the *RECORD* following my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, let me share with my colleagues some of what Ms. Cornwell, who has spent the better part of her adult life studying and observing crime and its effects, has to say. She says "when a person is touched by violence, the fabric of civility is forever rent, or ripped, or breached * * *." This a graphic but accurate description. Countless lives can be ruined by a single violent crime. There is, of course, the victim, who may be dead, or scarred for life. There are the family and friends of the victim, who are traumatized as well, and who must live with the loss of a loved one. Society itself is harmed, when each of us is a little more frightened to walk on our streets at night, to use an ATM, or to jog or bike in our parks. And, yes, there is the offender who has chosen to throw his or her life away. Particularly when the offender is a juvenile, family, friends, and society are made poorer for the waste of potential in every human being. One crime, but permanent effects when "the fabric of civility is rent."

This is the reality that has driven me to work even up to the closing hours of the session to address this issue. For nearly a year, the Senate has had before it comprehensive youth violence legislation. S. 10, the Hatch-Sessions Violent and Repeat Juvenile Offender Act, was reported out of the Judiciary